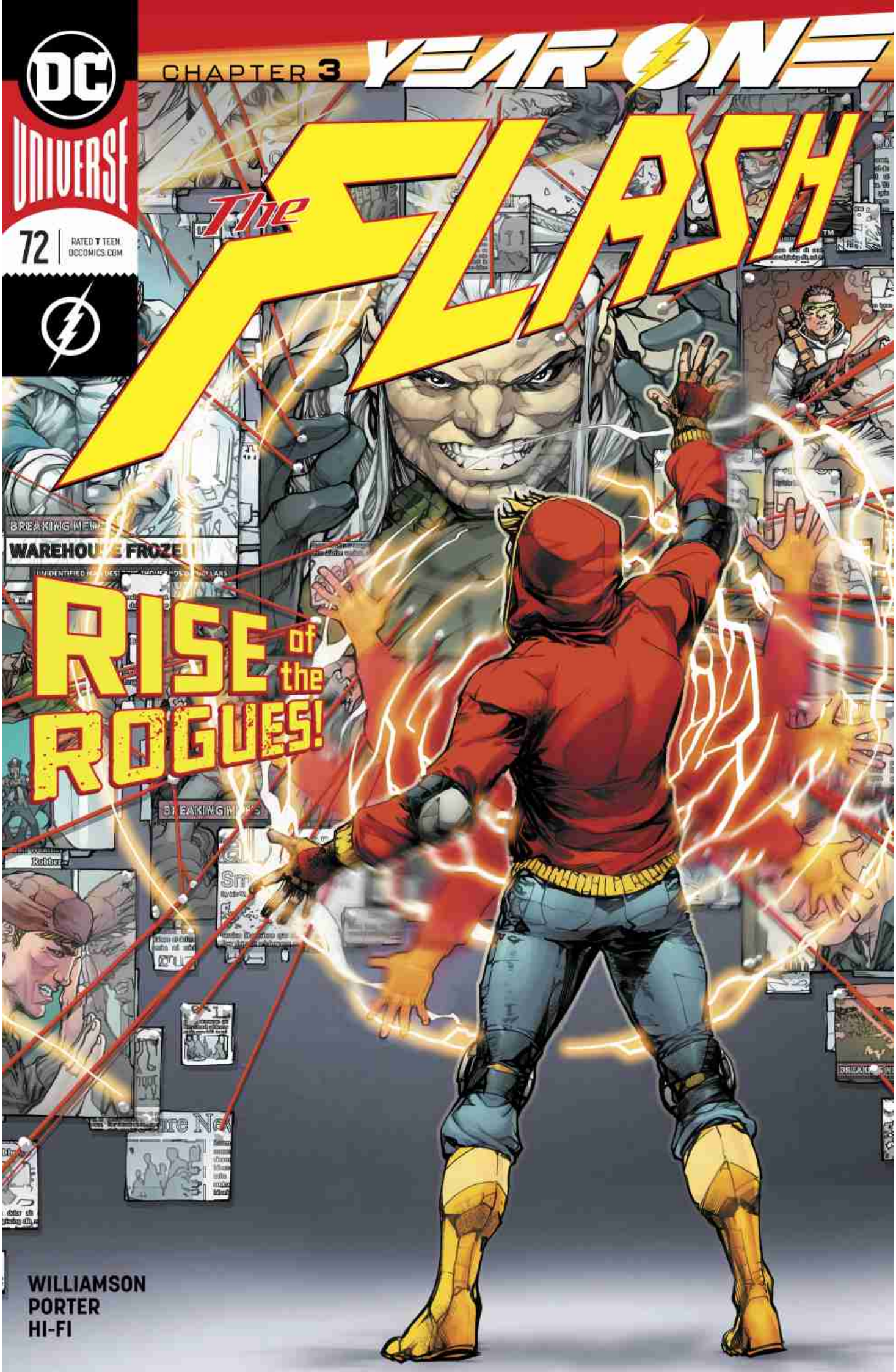
DC UNIVERSE
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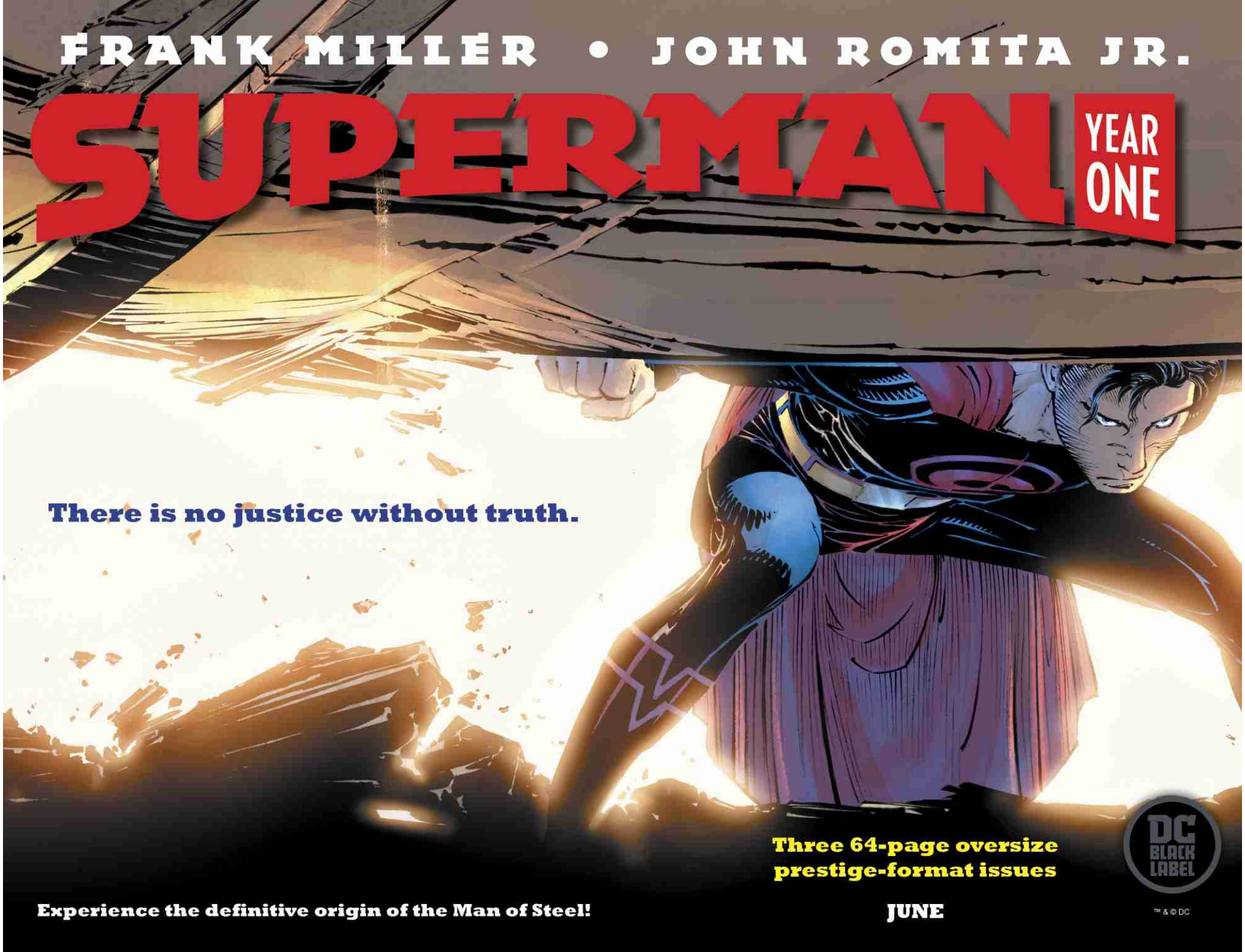
CHAPTER 3
YEAR ONE
The FLASH
RISE of the ROGUES!
WILLIAMSON
PORTER
HI-FI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SUPERMAN
YEAR ONE
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DC BLACK LABEL
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JUNE
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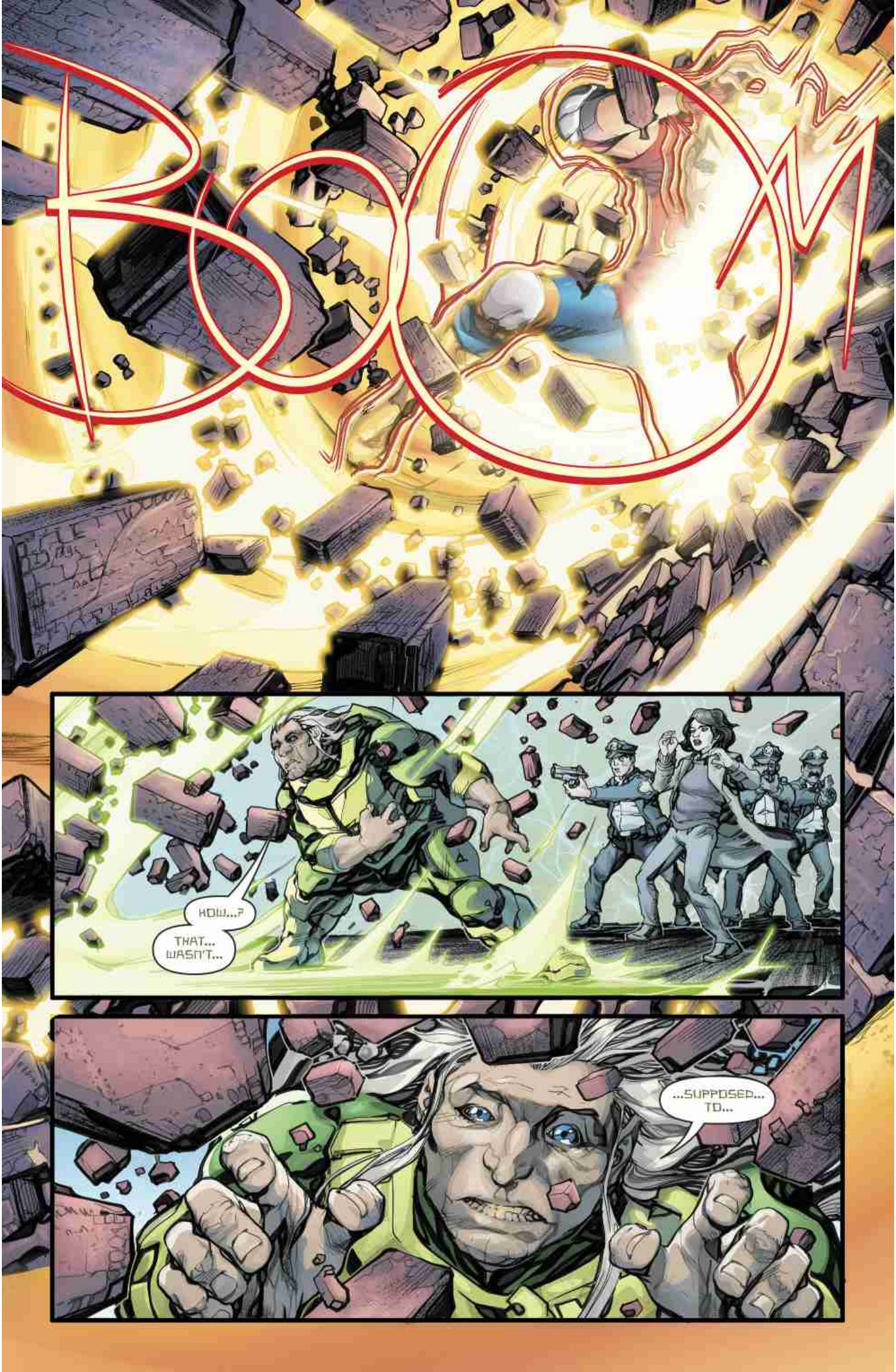
OH... LOOK... A NEW... FRIEND... WANTS TO...
...PLAY.
I'M...I'M GOING TO KICK YOUR...UH... SHELL, TURTLE!
TRASH TALK IS NOT MY SUPER-POWER.
BUT I LEARNED FROM BULLIES THAT WORDS CAN HURT.
THAT DIDN'T MATTER TO ME WHEN I WAS A KID.
IF I SAW SOMEONE BEING PICKED ON, I'D STEP UP.
NO MATTER HOW BAD IT GOT...
...OR HOW MUCH THEY PUSHED ME AROUND...
...I'D NEVER THROW A PUNCH.
THAT'S BEEN TRUE MY WHOLE LIFE.
UNTIL TODAY!

HE'S CALLED THE TURTLE. TODAY HE'S A BANK ROBBER...
...AND I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ABOUT TO SAY THIS, BUT I RECENTLY TOOK A TRIP TO A HORRIFIC FUTURE WHERE HE'S KING OF CENTRAL CITY.
SO I HAD THIS GENIUS IDEA TO USE MY SUPER-SPEED TO STOP HIM TODAY, AND MAYBE PREVENT THAT FUTURE.
August 29th
NO...
I... DON'T...
...THINK... SO.
BUT I DIDN'T FACTOR IN HIS POWERS TO SLOW THINGS DOWN COUNTERING MY SPEED.
AND NOW I'M PRETTY MUCH POWERLESS.
CHAPTER THREE: SLOWEST MAN ALIVE
YEAR ONE
JOSHUA WILLIAMSON & HOWARD PORTER STORYTELLERS
HI-FI COLORIST STEVE WANDS LETTERING PORTER & HI-FI COVER
DERRICK CHEW VARIANT COVER ANDREW MARINO ASSOCIATE EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI EDITOR JAMIE S. RICH GROUP EDITOR

CURIOUS.
YOU'RE... LIKE...ME.
HOW DID... YOU GET... THESE POWERS?
YOUR SPEED...IS INTOXICATING. BUT...
UGH...
...SLOW AND STEADY ALWAYS WINS THE RACE.
I NEED TO GET SOME DISTANCE... BETWEEN US...
IS HIS...
...ENERGY FIELD...
...STEALING...
...MY SPEED?
NONONONONOTHISISGONNAHURT!!!
WHAT...?
I'M VIBRATING INTO THE WALL. BUT THE LAST TIME I DID THAT...


BOOM
HOW...?
THAT... WASN'T...
...SUPPOSED... TO...

KRAK
AH!
OH...
...MY...
...GOD!
TIME IS SPEEDING UP AGAIN. THOSE BRICKS COULD HURT IRIS AND THE POLICE OFFICERS!
GET...
I HAVE A SECOND BEFORE TURTLE RECOVERS.
MAYBE LESS.
...DOWN...
WHERE...IS... HE...?
HE... MADE...ME... LOOK... FOOLISH.
I'LL...SLOW...ALL...OF... YOU...DOWN...TO...NOTHING.
TTZ ZZZZ

CENTRAL CITY TRUST
WHOA...
ATTENTION, DISPATCH, WE HAVE A CODE 42.
CALL S.T.A.R. LABS, WE NEED A PICK-UP NOW!
DID ANY OF YOU FEEL THAT...?
ALMOST LIKE... STATIC... IN THE AIR.
UF UF UF UF...
I GOT LUCKY...UF UF...BIG-TIME.
NEED TO BE SMARTER ABOUT THIS AND--
IRIS.
MY EDITOR IS GOING TO THINK I WAS DRINKING ON THE JOB...
DON'T WORRY, SLOWPOKE. WE GOT A CELL WAITING FOR YA IN THE BRAND-NEW IRON HEIGHTS...

IRIS?!
SORRY I'M LATE.
THE POLICE HAVE THE AREA TAPED OFF AND I FORGOT MY CSI BADGE.
LOOKS LIKE I MISSED ALL THE ACTION.
BARRY...? OH RIGHT... COFFEE.
A CENTRAL CITY GIRL DOESN'T LIKE TO BE KEPT WAITING, ALLEN.
I, UH...
AND I DON'T SAY THIS TO BE MEAN, BUT...WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE?
IT'S JUST LEFT OVER FROM THE LIGHTNING IN MY LAB. I'M, UH... A SLOW HEALER.
DOES IT STILL HURT?
HA! ONLY WHEN YOU TOUCH IT.
OH! SORRY!
WELL...I'M SURE YOU'LL NEED TO WORK THE CRIME SCENE.
WE CAN GET COFFEE SOME OTHER--
HOW ABOUT DINNER INSTEAD?
THERE'S A DINER I GO TO NEARBY THAT SERVES BREAKFAST ALL DAY.
GREAT. I'M STARVING.
STOP
DID I REALLY DO IT...DID I SAVE THE FUTURE?

FOR SO LONG, I WAS AFRAID OF WHAT TOMORROW WOULD BRING.
I HAD NO IDEA HOW MUCH OF MY LIFE I WAS LOSING WORRYING.
IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME.
BUT NOW, BECAUSE OF THE SPEED... I HAVE TIME.
FOR RELATIONSHIPS.
FOR WORK.
FOR FRIENDS.
I USE THE SPEED TO HELP PEOPLE.
IT ONLY TOOK SEEING THAT HORRIBLE FUTURE TO FINALLY LEARN...
...EVERY SECOND IS A GIFT.
AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER...
...I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO TOMORROW.
BUT I STILL FEEL LIKE I CAN DO MORE...

I STARTED TO LEAVE A KIND OF SIGNATURE.
THE LIGHTNING CHANGED MY LIFE FOR THE BETTER, SO I FELT LIKE SHOWING OTHERS THAT SYMBOL WAS MY WAY OF HONORING IT.
Abernathy's
Craft Beers & Fine Spirits
October 11th
OF COURSE, I'D RACE BY LATER AND CLEAN IT, BUT FOR THE DAY IT WAS PROOF THAT SOMEONE WAS LOOKING OUT FOR THEM.

AND HE WORE RED?
YEAH! AND HE WAS LIKE, ZOOM BOOM!
HE TOTALLY TOOK THOSE GUYS OUT IN A FLASH BEFORE I EVEN BLINKED!
AND THEN SUDDENLY THERE WERE JUST BOXES OF PIZZA EVERYWHERE. IT WAS AWESOME.

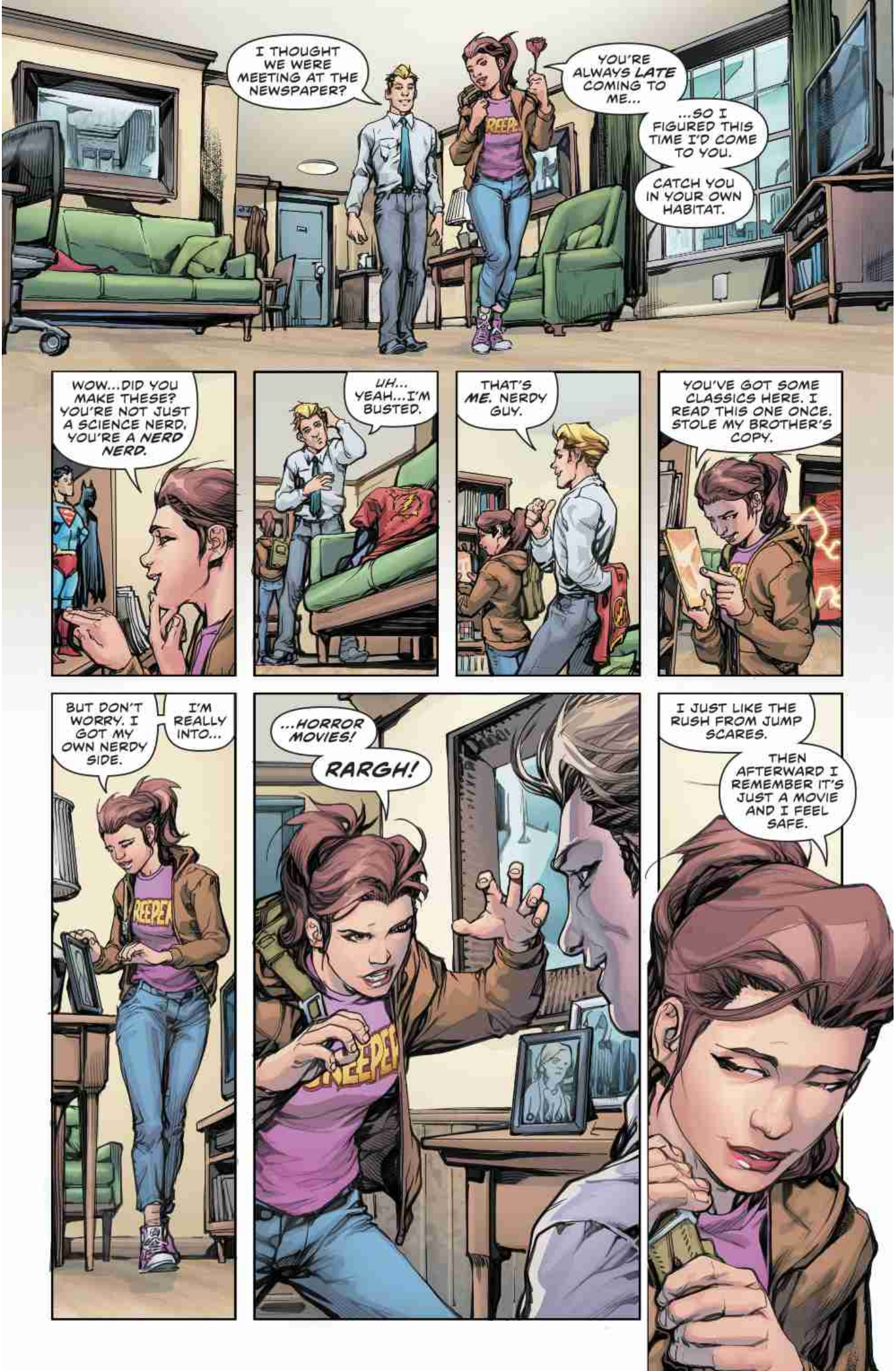
I'M TRYING TO FIND WAYS TO GET INTO COSTUME FASTER. THE TIME I SAVE GETTING MY COSTUME ON MEANS MORE TIME TO SAVE LIVES.

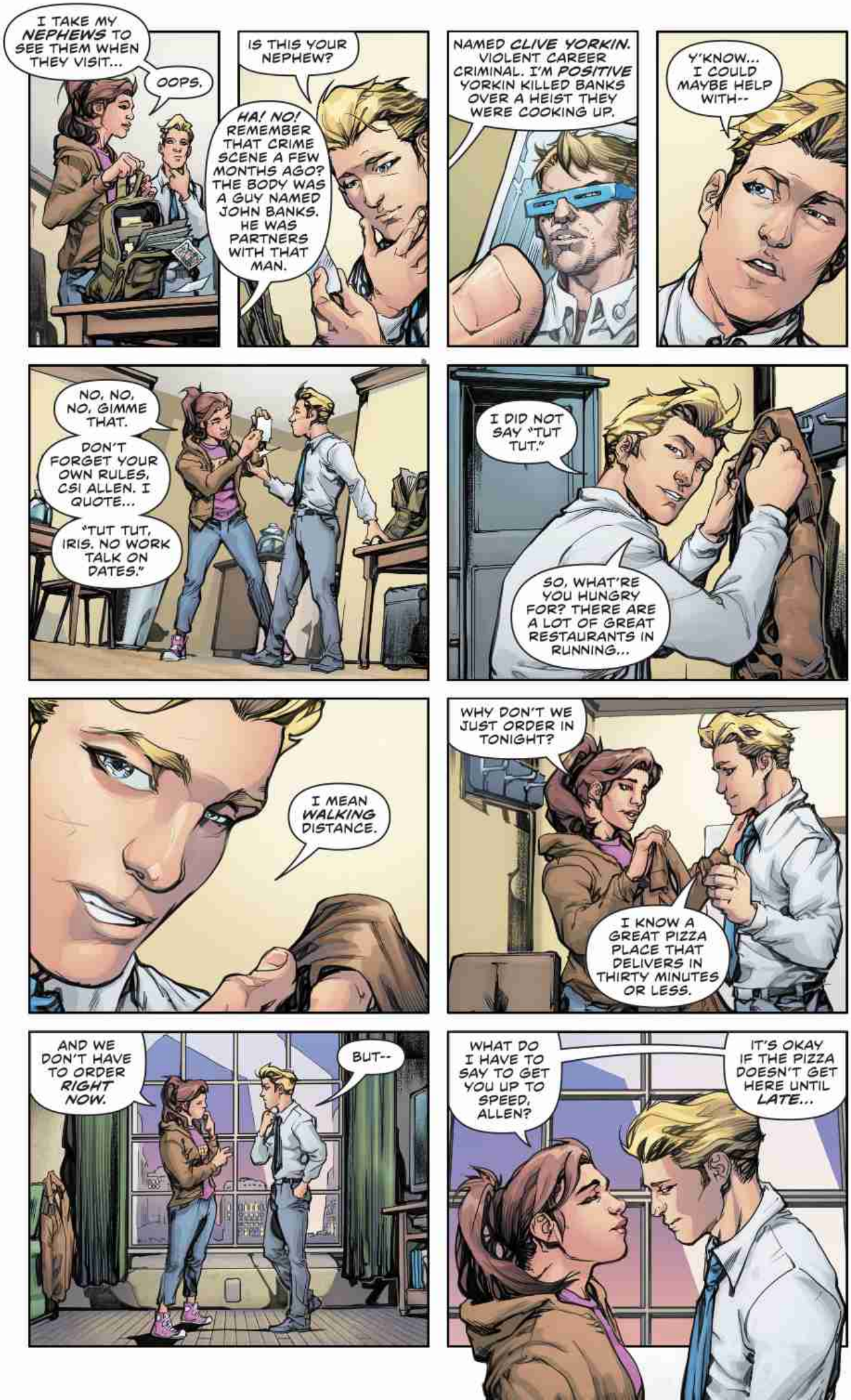
IT'S BEEN A STRUGGLE, BUT THESE POWERS HAVE OPENED MY MIND UP TO ALL KINDS OF CRAZY IDEAS. I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING IN THE SPEED IS SPEAKING TO ME...

SURPRISE! BUZZ ME IN!

IRIS? HERE? I'M NOT READY...

...AND SHE'S NEVER SEEN MY PLACE BEFORE.
IT NORMALLY TAKES SOMEONE EXACTLY FIFTEEN SECONDS TO GET FROM THE FRONT DOOR AND UP THE STAIRS TO MY APARTMENT.
BUT IRIS...
...SKIPS STEPS TO SAVE TIME.
THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING GREAT WITH HER.
BETTER THAN I EVER EXPECTED.
ALLEN 8
BUT THERE'S A PART OF ME THAT KEEPS EXPECTING MYSELF TO...
...RUIN IT...
KNOCK KNOCK
WELL, LOOK AT YOU ALL FANCY.
JUST SOMETHING I THREW ON.


I THOUGHT WE WERE MEETING AT THE NEWSPAPER?
YOU'RE ALWAYS LATE COMING TO ME...
...SO I FIGURED THIS TIME I'D COME TO YOU.
CATCH YOU IN YOUR OWN HABITAT.
WOW...DID YOU MAKE THESE? YOU'RE NOT JUST A SCIENCE NERD, YOU'RE A NERD NERD.
UH... YEAH...I'M BUSTED.
THAT'S ME. NERDY GUY.
YOU'VE GOT SOME CLASSICS HERE. I READ THIS ONE ONCE. STOLE MY BROTHER'S COPY.
BUT DON'T WORRY. I GOT MY OWN NERDY SIDE.
I'M REALLY INTO...
...HORROR MOVIES!
RARGH!
I JUST LIKE THE RUSH FROM JUMP SCARES.
THEN AFTERWARD I REMEMBER IT'S JUST A MOVIE AND I FEEL SAFE.


I TAKE MY NEPHEWS TO SEE THEM WHEN THEY VISIT...
OOPS.
IS THIS YOUR NEPHEW?
HA! NO! REMEMBER THAT CRIME SCENE A FEW MONTHS AGO? THE BODY WAS A GUY NAMED JOHN BANKS. HE WAS PARTNERS WITH THAT MAN.
NAMED CLIVE YORKIN. VIOLENT CAREER CRIMINAL. I'M POSITIVE YORKIN KILLED BANKS OVER A HEIST THEY WERE COOKING UP.
Y'KNOW... I COULD MAYBE HELP WITH--
NO, NO, NO, GIMME THAT.
DON'T FORGET YOUR OWN RULES, CSI ALLEN. I QUOTE...
"TUT TUT, IRIS. NO WORK TALK ON DATES."
I DID NOT SAY "TUT TUT."
SO, WHAT'RE YOU HUNGRY FOR? THERE ARE A LOT OF GREAT RESTAURANTS IN RUNNING...
I MEAN WALKING DISTANCE.
WHY DON'T WE JUST ORDER IN TONIGHT?
I KNOW A GREAT PIZZA PLACE THAT DELIVERS IN THIRTY MINUTES OR LESS.
AND WE DON'T HAVE TO ORDER RIGHT NOW.
BUT--
WHAT DO I HAVE TO SAY TO GET YOU UP TO SPEED, ALLEN?
IT'S OKAY IF THE PIZZA DOESN'T GET HERE UNTIL LATE...

BEEP BEEP
DOES THAT "BEEP BEEP" COUNT AS WORK TALK?
IT DOES, BUT...SIGH... SHOOT.
ONE OF MY SOURCES GOT A TIP THAT YORKIN IS WORKING WITH A NEW GANG.
I GOTTA RUN.
I'M SORRY. IS THAT OKAY?
DUTY CALLS. I GET IT. NO WORRIES. HEADLINES DON'T WRITE THEMSELVES.
IT'S JUST I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THIS MURDER CASE FOR MONTHS WHILE EVERYONE ELSE CHASES THE FLASH STORY.
UMMM, YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED IN THE FLASH?
I NEED TO SEE MORE EVIDENCE TO DECIDE.
SEE WHAT I DID THERE? EVIDENCE? A LITTLE CSI HUMOR. JUST FOR YOU.
CENTRAL CITY HAS A LOT OF CRIME. IT NEEDS MORE THAN A COSTUMED HERO.
IT NEEDS HOPE.
IRIS IS RIGHT.
SOME DAYS I FEEL LIKE I'M RUNNING BEFORE I LEARNED TO WALK.
I WAS SURE THAT STOPPING THE TURTLE PREVENTED THAT HORRIBLE FUTURE...

...BUT I'VE FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE PRESENT.
FOCUSING ON THE POWERS... AND IRIS...THE TURTLE...
I HAVE A BACKLOG OF UNSOLVED CASES.
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT WHAT IRIS SAID. THAT CASE WITH THE DEAD BODY IN THE STREET.
I NEVER PROCESSED THE EVIDENCE I COLLECTED THAT DAY BECAUSE I WAS HIT BY THE LIGHTNING.
THERE WAS A POWDER ON HIS SHOES.
IT'S A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE...
...AND IT'S ONLY AVAILABLE AT CENTRAL CITY PHARMACEUTICAL.
THE EVIDENCE LEADS ME DIRECTLY TO...

...CLIVE YORKIN.
NOT A BAD SCORE, GUYS.
I TOLD YOU THESE GLASSES WOULD WORK, SNART.
HELPED US AVOID ALL THE ALARMS AND WE CAN SEE IF ANY POLICE CHATTER IS ONTO US.
AND WE LOOK COOL DOING IT.
HEY!
THIS WAS MY HEIST. YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I HAD TO DO TO PLAN THIS. I SHOULD GET A BIGGER CUT!
THAT AIN'T THE WAY IT WORKS IN MY CREW, YORKIN.
YOU WORK WITH ME...WE'RE FAMILY. EVERYONE GETS THE SAME FOOD AT THE TABLE.
I DON'T KNOW WHO THE REST OF THE MEN WORKING WITH YORKIN ARE, BUT IF HE'S A KILLER, IT'S PROBABLY SAFER THAT I TAKE THEM ALL--
EXCUSE ME, CLIVE YORKIN?!

MY NAME IS IRIS WEST AND I'M WITH THE CENTRAL CITY CITIZEN.
I'D LOVE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT AN OLD ASSOCIATE OF YOURS.
HEY, GET THAT CAMERA OUTTA MY FACE!
HANDLE YOUR BUSINESS, YORKIN. WE DON'T NEED THIS KIND OF HEAT.
I JUST HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU ABOUT JOHN BANKS?
HOW ABOUT NO COMMENT AND YOU TAKE A HIKE?
DID YOU MURDER HIM?
YOU SEEIN' THIS?
...IRIS?
GEEZ...IF YOU'RE NOT GOING AWAY...
...THEN YOU'RE COMING WITH US.
CAN I QUOTE YOU ON THAT?
THWAK
HOW ABOUT I TAKE YOU OFF THE RECORD!
CHILL OUT! THOSE COPS ARE GONNA SEE YOU!

I...
...DON'T...
...CARE...
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG

AH!

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?

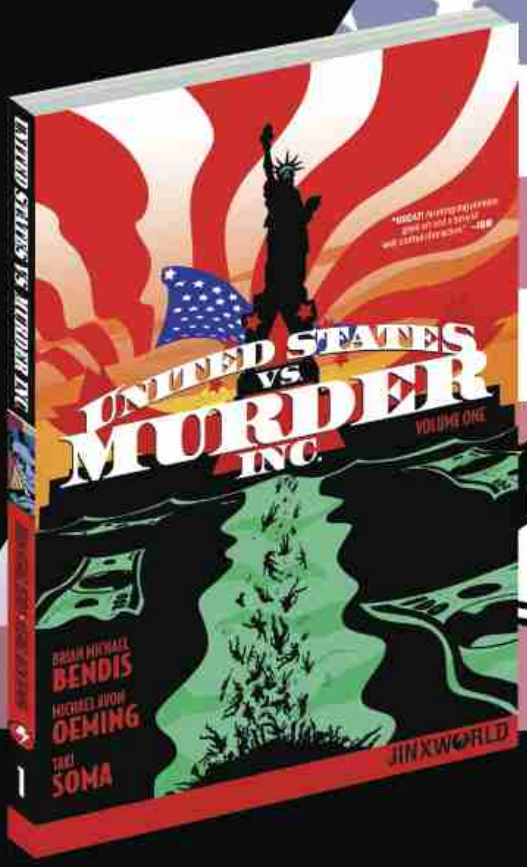
YOU BOYS JUST GOT BUSTED BY THE FLASH!

UF UF UF UF...

END CHAPTER THREE
NEXT: DEAD MAN WALKING

THE UNITED STATES IS BEING RIPPED APART.
THE FIVE FAMILIES ARE GOING TO PUT IT BACK TOGETHER.

UNITED STATES VS. MURDER INC.



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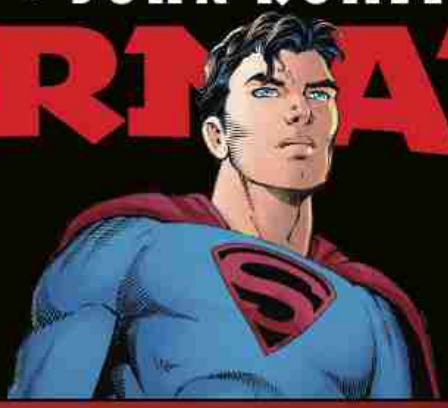
SUPERMAN YEAR ONE



"I think this kind of storytelling is going to set a precedent."

–John Romita Jr.

DC BLACK LABEL

A DC NATION interview with JOHN ROMITA JR. part two

What's it like working with Frank Miller, Danny Miki and Alex Sinclair?

First, working with Danny and Alex has been amazing because we are all artists. This is not one artist and an inker and a colorist. And even Frank is an artist, so there are actually four artists on this book.

Having a brilliant group of artists has been amazing– I cannot quantify it. It's why it is as good as it is. Danny has gone through more liquid ink than any human being in this business because of the size of the paper. I'm just using graphite– pencils and erasers– but all that ink, it's almost comical if it weren't so difficult. Everyone is putting their heart and soul in it.

With Frank, we've done this format before where he gives me a plot and allows me to run, and then he'll fill the dialogue in according to the artwork, so to speak. I love it this way. It is daunting because it's 200 pages, and there is a lot of room to play with, and a lot of area to fill, and I didn't really go by the lore of Superman when I filled in these anecdotal vignettes of youth. I kind of brought some of the things I experienced—football playing, running into bullies and dealing with crushes as an adolescent. I tried to do that because there are areas that you can't print out to use as reference. So I tried to give some of my own experiences in those moments.

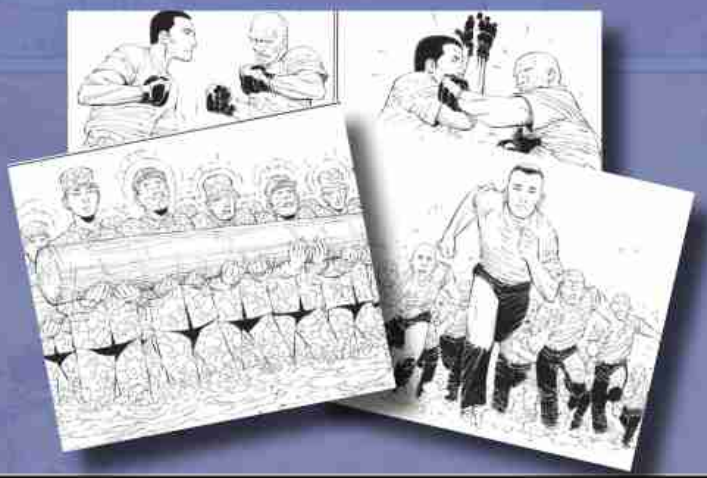
And then Frank brought in Clark going into the Navy. And I was able to run with that as Clark goes to the SEALs. Frank even contacted the SEALs to take a look at this and they gave us their approval, which was so great. And it all makes perfect sense for Clark. He's living in the Midwest, but he's from a planet that has oceans. So at one point he thinks "I need to be near water!" So joining the Navy is a very normal progression. He goes to his parents for advice and then a short time later, he's joining the Navy.

I think this kind of storytelling is going to set a precedent—the size and scope of the story—I don't know if I'd jump at doing another story like this immediately, but maybe again in a few years.

What should first-time readers know before picking this up?

If they have any memories of their youth, they'll be able to appreciate this. It parallels any person's adolescence. Even a super-being has trouble with romance, deals with bullies and learns from their parents.

GET *SUPERMAN: YEAR ONE* #1 ON JUNE 19



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